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the syllables are easy to sound out. Look at Dr. Deepak Gangahar, very simple name. If you look at it as a whole word perhaps it isn't, because you're not sure what goes together. But if you sound it out, the word comes very clearly to you is how to pronounce that name. I know another, Dr. Bajwa, B-a-j-w-a. If you'd look at that just as, well, how's that pronounced? Well if you look at "Ba", or even if you thought it was a long A, Bajwa, it's easy to do when you sound it out. And those of us who know how to read, and reading is easy now because we've been doing it for so many years, don't think about the fact that when we started with the phonics and learned to sound them out, eventually we move to the whole word. And we listen, we listen to our parents as we were little and understand how to pronounce a name or a word, and then when we see that name or word in writing we realize that that's the word we've been hearing. So, I don't...I think this amendment is probably okay on LB 1228, and I am going to vote for it. And I did think that perhaps Senator Witek needed a little help here. I have heard from a significant number of people about phonics from my district and from across the state and from the city of Lincoln because a lot of people, most of us, are concerned about why a lot of children do not learn how to read. Reading is essential. It's wonderful to know how to do math, but if you can't read the instructions telling you how to do that math, or unless you're some kind of math genius that it just comes out of your brain, and there are those people, you have to learn to read to understand the math book. So...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR CROSBY. ...reading is essential. I think phonics is a good start. I would hope that this would be a signal to the schools to incorporate phonics in their curriculum, if they aren't doing it now, and to use it in the proper way. And I will support the amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Wickersham.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Thank you, Madam President. I rise in opposition to Senator Witek's amendment, not because I don't think that some children might benefit by the use of phonics as a part of their educational experience. I had phonics when I